

**ABSTRACT**

A latch communications method and system are disclosed herein,  
5 which generally includes a communications receiver and transmitter unit  
associated with a latch. Additionally, an interface component is provided for  
interfacing with the communications receiver and transmitter unit, wherein  
the interface component is co-located with the communications receiver and  
transmitter unit in association with the latch. Also, an interpreter is  
10 associated with the interface component and the communications and  
transmitter unit, wherein the interpreter processes information received from  
the communications receiver and transmitter unit in order to provide latch  
diagnostics and functionalities.